

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SSC-01 /075 W
-----024862 170220Z /75

R 162040Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3243
INFO USUN MISSION NEW YORK 435
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 0266

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PORG, DR
SUBJECT: OPPOSITION LEADER CASIMIRO CASTRO NAMED DOMINICAN UN PERM
REP

1. PABLO RAFAEL CASIMIRO CASTRO, LONG-TIME STALWART OF
OPPOSITION PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DOMINICANO CONSIDERED TO
BE ONE OF THE MORE POPULAR FIGURES IN PRD, WAS SWORN IN
EVENING OF JANUARY 13 BY PRESIDENT BALAGUER AS NEXT GODR
AMBASSADOR TO UN.

2. CASIMIRO, WHO HAS NO PREVIOUS DIPLOMATIC EXPERIENCE,
ANNOUNCED VIA NATIONWIDE RADIO-TV HOOKUP EARLIER THAT DAY
THAT HE WAS DECLINING PRD'S OFFER OF REINTEGRATION INTO
PRD'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO ACCEPT BALAGUER'S PROPOSAL THAT
HE TAKE THE UN JOB.

3. CASIMIRO'S ACCEPTANCE OF HIGH GOVERNMENT POST ENDS
PERIOD OF INCREASINGLY SHARP DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HIM AND PRD
LEADERSHIP, AFTER IT WAS REALIGNED AT PARTY CONVENTION LAST
NOVEMBER. IT ALSO MARKS ANOTHER GOVERNMENT SUCCESS
IN ITS TACTIC OF MAKING OFF WITH OPPOSITION'S TOP TALENT
BY WAY OF SEDUCTIVE OFFERS OF CHOICE JOBS AND OTHER
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ALLUREMENTS.

4. DETAILS FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM.

5. COMMENT: SHOCK OF CASIMIRO'S EFFECTIVE DEPARTURE
FROM THE RANKS OF THE PRD, IN WHOSE SERVICE HE WAS BADLY
MUTILATED AND CRIPPLED BY A PHOSPHOROUS GRENADE ATTACK

DURING 1966 ELECTION CAMPAIGN, WAS REDUCED BY A SHOE-DROPPING ACT HE ENGAGED IN FOR PAST TWO WEEKS WHILE HE NEGOTIATED BEST DEAL HE COULD WITH GOVERNMENT. STILL, IT WILL HURT PRD SINCE CASIMIRO, AFTER SEC. GEN. PENA GOMEZ, IS CONSIDERED TO BE STRONGER AMONG THE MASSES THAN ALMOST ANY OTHER PARTY LEADER. FOR BALAGUER AND KEY MEN AROUND HIM WHO EFFECTED CASIMORO'S SEDUCTION, IT IS AN IMPORTANT COUP IN THEIR CONTINUING EFFORT TO FRAGMENT AN ALREADY DIVIDED OPPOSITION.
AXELROD

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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